

**EDITOR'S SPEAK**



**W**e Indians just need a reason to celebrate and what reason could ever get bigger than the festival of lights? Diwali is about brightness, about victory of hope over darkness. But in this spirit and in the pursuit of joy there is an undercurrent of panic. No matter how much we deny and convince ourselves that everything will be safe and sound around us, there is always a kind of uncertainty playing in our subconscious mind. But adopting an ostrich policy of shutting our eyes in the face of the danger is again not a solution! People shopping 'fearlessly' in the crowded markets; but the word 'fearlessly' can easily be replaced by 'carelessly'. By no means am I trying to add to the ever growing anxiety; but we need to be aware of the reality around us. And the stark reality is that there are explosives being planted all over.

If there are no bombs then it is ever dipping, and now boiled down to four figure sensex giving jolt to our economy which is causing a great pain to the investors. Communal rift has become another part of our daily life. There are many incidents whereby people are being burnt alive in the name of religion and God. Our cities are gashed, there is more pollution, more health problems and more people losing job – thanks to sword of recession which is dangling over our head. Maybe I am sounding panicky because I feel I have awoken out of oblivion; but we can only tackle these problems when we wake up from our deep slumber of ignorance! I sincerely hope this Diwali will light up our minds if not ignite them for finding the right solutions for these ever-increasing problems. Till then be safe and spend this Diwali in right spirit. Wish you a very happy and safe Diwali!

*Himanshu*

**HIMANSHU VERMA**  
himanverma@gmail.com



# Live-in Live –it



Inspired by the west, this phenomenon of live- in relationships is now legal. That means the term Other woman comes into the definition of the term "Wife" What does today's youth think about this?

How many times have you seen the movie-“ Baehna Ae Haaseno” and sympathised with Bipasha Basu’s character? Did you wish that there were some law to protect her from the injustice . Radha Shah (name changed) lived with her boyfriend for a period of three years while she was on the job. But when her parents began forcing her for marriage the boy shyed away for taking this relationship to the next level. Even though she was pregnant with his child. She decided not to abort this child and today she lives in New York with her baby as a single mother. She says,“I am happy that this law has been enforced at least now. Our society will look at the live in relationships with more respect. The young boys and girls will behave more responsible. A live-in relationship is like a marriage; only here there are break ups and there divorce.

”Azeem Dayani, an advertising student says in support of Live in relationships,“It is better to be in a live –in relationship than get divorced.” Many young couples also feel that there should be some seriousness in a commitment and a sense of willingness to take up the responsibility. “I think it is important to accept that the next stage of a relationship is marriage but if you are living with someone with false promises then there should some law to protect their rights,”says Preeti Shetty, an advertising student who is now engaged to her boyfriend of 6 years.

In a bold move, the Maharashtra state government recently proposed an amendment of Section 125 of the Criminal Penal Code to protect the pecuniary and interests of the "other woman", with a change in the definition of the "wife". The legislation describes the "other woman" as one who lives with a man for a "reasonably long period" of time.

Nimesh Advani thinks that “The whole constitution of marriage is damaged. This law is not helping as much. The young would still get into a live in relationship, which is very evident in today’s world. The couples would now not get married instead they would get into a live in relationship because both are on the same front.”

Mrs. Kirti,a housewife thinks,“A relationship is a personal and social commitment which should be blessed with marriage. Live in relationships are only for convenience and lust. But you cannot be so practical and fall for an emotional support on the partner. And when that is not met, as there is no obligation, it turns into depression and loss of young talent as it ends wrongly.”

**TANAY ADARKAR**  
adarkartanaya@gmail.com